

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT
DIGEST FOR EHB 1240**

Citations Affected: IC 20-32-5-20.

Synopsis: Statewide testing program; mentor teacher stipends. Conference committee report for EHB 1240. Requires the department of education and the state board of education, before November 1, 2006, to review the current statewide student testing program and develop a long-term plan for student testing. Sets forth objectives for the program review and plan development. Provides that mentor teacher stipends may be paid from certain appropriations to the department of education or from private funds donated to the department. Repeals a provision requiring the grading of certain parts of the ISTEP assessment to take place in Indiana. **(This conference committee report sets forth requirements for the department of education and the state board of education to meet in developing a plan for statewide student testing and adds provisions for the payment of stipends to mentor teachers.)**

Effective: Upon passage.

Adopted

Rejected

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

MR. SPEAKER:

Your Conference Committee appointed to confer with a like committee from the Senate upon Engrossed Senate Amendments to Engrossed House Bill No. 1240 respectfully reports that said two committees have conferred and agreed as follows to wit:

that the House recede from its dissent from all Senate amendments and that the House now concur in all Senate amendments to the bill and that the bill be further amended as follows:

- 1 Page 1, delete lines 1 through 11.
- 2 Page 1, between lines 13 and 14, begin a new paragraph and insert:
- 3 "SECTION 2. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) The definitions
- 4 in IC 20-18-2 apply to this SECTION.
- 5 (b) Before November 1, 2006, the department and the state board
- 6 shall review the current statewide testing program and develop a
- 7 long term plan that is subject to the approval of the state board for
- 8 the transition to a testing program with the following objectives:
- 9 (1) To provide a long term plan for student assessments.
- 10 (2) To review the existing annual tests for students in grades 3
- 11 through 10.
- 12 (3) To develop a testing program that:
- 13 (A) reflects a student's proficiency in and mastery of the
- 14 state's academic standards;
- 15 (B) is, to the greatest extent possible, more concise, less time
- 16 consuming, and less expensive to administer than the current
- 17 tests while maintaining the current level of rigor of the tests;
- 18 (C) provides prompt results to students, parents, and
- 19 teachers;
- 20 (D) explores all options for timing and use of summative
- 21 tests, including giving a summative test in the fall or the
- 22 spring;
- 23 (E) measures individual student growth from school year to

school year;

(F) explores all options for diagnostic tests for use by teachers to support ongoing remediation;

(G) is compatible with a transition to the use of online testing; and

(H) assesses student proficiency in written communication.

(4) To move to the use of online assessments for Core 40 subjects.

(c) In developing the plan under subsection (b), the department and the state board shall:

(1) solicit information from educators, administrators, parents, and the public concerning the program;

(2) look at tests and testing practices in use by or in development by other states;

(3) solicit information from testing companies concerning:

(A) parameters and costs of tests;

(B) steps to be taken to ensure the validity and reliability of the tests;

(C) steps to move the longitudinal data from the current testing program to the new testing program; and

(D) any other information the department or the state board considers useful in developing the testing program;

(4) develop a plan to move to online tests;

(5) determine the most effective means to assess student proficiency in written communication; and

(6) include specifications for diagnostic tests for use by teachers during the school year.

(d) Before November 1, 2006, the state board shall approve and submit a report concerning the testing program to the budget committee, the legislative council, and the office of management and budget. The report must explain the testing program and provide the estimated costs for the program beginning with tests given during the 2007-2008 school year. The report to the legislative council must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

(e) A contract for testing students during the 2006-2007 school year may be issued. However, contracts for testing students during any subsequent school year must follow the state board's approval of the testing plan.

(f) This SECTION expires July 1, 2008.

SECTION 3. [EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE] (a) Notwithstanding P.L.246-2005, SECTION 9, Subsection B, stipends for mentor teachers may be paid from the appropriations made FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIVISION, for FY 2005-2006 and FY 2006-2007, or from funds provided to the department of education by private donors.

(b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2007."

Renumber all SECTIONS consecutively.

(Reference is to EHB 1240, Printer's Error, printed February 17, 2006.)

Conference Committee Report
on
Engrossed House Bill 1240

Signed by:

Representative Behning
Chairperson

Senator Lubbers

Representative Porter

Senator Rogers

House Conferees

Senate Conferees